



"An inclusive community, celebrating God's unconditional love through engaging worship and faithful service"



Pastor
installation
SERVICE

of Rev. Clare Gromoll
October 3, 2021

The Love of God Gathers Us

Gathering Music

Sharon Neuenfeldt, *keyboard*

Clergy Gather for Prayer

Rev. T. Michael Rock

Ringing of the Bell

Sharon Binger

Prelude

“You Raise Me Up”

by Josh Groban

Words of Welcome

Rev. Clare Gromoll

*****Gathering Hymn**

“Gather Us In”

#284 CH
see page #4-5

*****Opening Prayer**

Mary Maren Bjork

One: A child once dreamed that God called him by name - “Samuel.”
Fisherfolk from the Galilean Sea once met a young man who told them to lay aside their nets and follow. A woman, drawing water from a well, once spoke with a prophet whose words sent her back to town in a rush.

Many: I heard the voice of God saying, “Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”

One: Moses stood before a burning bush, protesting God’s call upon him: “Who am I to go to Pharaoh to free the children of Israel?... What will I say when they ask who sent me?... O God, I beg of you, send someone else!”

Many: I heard the voice of God saying, “Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”

One: Mary stood before God’s messenger, amazed at the news she was hearing: “But how is it possible for this to take place?... Yet, I am God’s servant, So let it be done as you have said.”

Many: I heard the voice of God saying, “Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”

cont...

One: Jeremiah stood in despair before God who had appointed him a prophet while he was still within his mother's womb: "Sovereign God! I don't know how to speak to the nations; I am too young!"

Many: I heard the voice of God saying, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

One: Mary Magdalene stood in joyous tears before the risen Christ, framing the message she would bring to her grieving companions: "I have seen the Lord!"

Many: I heard the voice of God saying, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

Please continue in prayerful silence

*****Assurance of Grace & Invitation to Pass the Peace**

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you! All: And also with you!

Proclaiming God's Love

Scriptures:

1 Samuel 3: 1-10 *NRSV*
Matthew 5: 13-16 *NRSV*

Sam Bardwell

Special Music

"Light of the World"

by Cathy Pino
Mike Bjork, guitar

You are the light of the world.
You are the light of the world,
so shine, shine, shine where you are.
You are the light of the world.

You are a city on a hill...
You are a candle in the dark...
You are a star in the night...
You are the light of the world...

***Gather Us In

Unison D A C G Gm/B \flat Dm

1. Here in this place, the new light is stream-ing, sha-dows of doubt are
 2. We are the young—our lives are a mys-tery; we are the old, who
 3. Here we re-ceive new life in the wa-ters; here we re-ceive the
 4. Not just in build-ings, small and con-fin-ing, not in some heav - en,

C G D A C G

van-ished a - way. See in this space our fears and our dream-ings,
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his - tory,
 bread of new birth; here you shall call your sons and yourdaugh-ters,
 light years a - way, here in this place the new light is shin - ing;

Gm/B \flat Dm C Am7 D

brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is God pres-ent, and now is the day.

A C/G D/F# G A C/G

Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en; gath-er us in; our
 Gath-er us in— the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in— the
 Give us to drink the wine of com- pass- ion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er; gath-er us in and

D/F# G A D A C G

spir - its in - flame. Call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en;
 proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so low - ly;
 bread that is you; nour- ish us well, and teach us to fash- ion
 make us your own; gath- er us in, all peo- ples to- geth- er,

Gm/Bb Dm C Am7 D C/D Gm/D D

we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour- age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

A Time with Young People

Rev. Kevin Brown

We invite children to bring their chairs forward with them, gathering in a circle

Blessing One Another

Children: God be with you
All: And also with you

*Children may follow leaders to Children's Activity in the nearby picnic shelter
or remain with their families in worship.*

Message

"Yet More Truth and Light"

Rev. Norma Rae Hunt

Prayer Hymn "Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant"

#539 NCH

1 & 6 Won't you let me be your ser- vant, let me be as Christ to you?
2 We are pil- grims on a jour- ney, we are trav- elers on the road;
3 I will hold the Christ- light for you in the shad- ow of your fear;
4 I will weep when you are weep- ing; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
5 When we sing to God in heav- en we shall find such har- mo- ny,

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser- vant, too.
We are here to help each oth- er go the mile and bear the load.
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
I will share your joy and sor- row till we've seen this jour- ney through.
Born of all we've known to- geth- er of Christ's love and ag- o - ny.
(repeat stanza 1)

Richard Gillard was born in England and later made his home in New Zealand. Largely self-taught, Gillard has described his musical style as "folk." This is the best known of his many songs in the United States.

Tune: SERVANT SONG 8.7.8.7.
Richard Gillard, 1977
Arr. Betty Carr Pulkingham, 1977; adapt.

Responding To God's Love

Prayers of the People

*You are invited to speak a brief prayer for yourself, another, or a part of the world.
Raise your hand or stand and project your brief joy or concern as loudly as possible.
Pastor Clare will follow your prayer with the words, "God, in your love..."*

One: God, in your love,

All: Hear our prayer

Lord's Prayer

**Eternal Spirit,
Source of all that is and ever shall be,
Loving Parent in whom we discern heaven,
May knowledge of your holiness inspire all peoples,
And may your commonwealth of peace and freedom flourish on Earth
Until all of humankind heed your call to justice and compassion.
May we find the bread that we need for today,
And for the hurts we cause one another
May we be forgiven in the same measure that we forgive.
In times of trial and temptation, help us to be strong;
When life seems overwhelming, help us to endure;
And thus from the yoke of sin deliver us.
May you reign in the power of human love,
Now and forever.
Amen.**

Order of Installation

Naming Our 4-Way Covenant

Covenantal partners present the candidate and name their commitments

Rev. Kay Welsch, *Committee on Ministry, MN Conference United Church of Christ*
Laura Lundgren, *Deacons, United Church of Christ in New Brighton*
Matt Wulff, *Moderator, People's Congregational Church*

Charge to the Pastor

Rev. Kay Welsch

Charge to the Congregation

Rev. Beth Donaldson

Covenanting

Questions to the Candidate

The candidate makes her vows to her covenantal partners

Questions to the Congregation

The gathered community makes their vows to the candidate

One: People of God, will you receive Rev. Clare Gromoll as a messenger of Jesus the Christ, empowered by the love of God to serve alongside you as we embody the gospel of hope and salvation?

All: We will, and we ask God to help us.

One: People of God, will you pray for her, collaborate with her as partners in ministry, and strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ?

All: We will, and we ask God to help us.

Prayer of Installation

One: God of all... forever and ever. And let the people say,

All: Amen!

Declaration

One: In the name of Jesus the Christ, we declare that Rev. Clare Gromoll is duly installed as pastor of People's Congregational Church.

All: Thanks be to God!

One: Let us welcome her with joy!

Greetings from Ecumenical Partners in Ministry

National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC),
Rev. Pamela Jensen reads a letter from
Executive Director Rev. Dr. Ashley Cook Cleere.

MN Conference United Church of Christ
Rev. Sandy Johnson, Bridge Associate Conference Minister

Invitation to the Offering

Mary Maren Bjork

Today's offering will be shared among the Minnesota Conference UCC Conference Minister's Discretionary Fund, the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC), and People's Congregational Church.

Please write any checks to People's Congregational Church with "Installation" in the memo line.

If you choose to scan this QR code with your smartphone to make an electronic gift, please select "tithes and offerings" from the drop-down menu. Your gift will be shared among the three bodies.



I the Lord of sea and sky
I have heard my people cry
All who dwell in dark and sin
 My hand will save
I who made the stars of night
I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them?
 Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

Here I am Lord,
Is it I Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night
I will go Lord,
If you lead me,
I will hold your people in my heart

I, the Lord of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame
 I will set a feast for them
 My hand will save
 Finest bread I will provide
'Til their hearts be satisfied
I will give my life to them

Refrain:

Here I am Lord,
Is it I Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night
I will go Lord,
If you lead me,
I will hold your people in my heart

I, the Lord of snow and rain
I have borne my people's pain
I have wept for love of them
 They turn away
I will break their hearts of stone
Give them hearts for love alone
I will speak my words to them
 Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

Here I am Lord,
Is it I Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night
I will go Lord,
If you lead me,
I will hold your people in my heart

*****Doxology**

see pages 12-13

*****Prayer of Dedication**

**God of all, receive these gifts--and give us open hands.
Fill our lives--and give us open hearts.
Touch us with prophecy--and give us open minds.
Bless this church--and give us open doors. Amen.**

Going Forth to Share God's Love

*****Closing Hymn "I Am the Light of the World"**

#584 NCH
see pages 14-15

*****Benediction**

*****Sung Response "Let There Be Peace on Earth"**

by Jill Jackson-Miller and Sy Miller

**Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me
Let there be peace on Earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God as creator, family all are we.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.**

**Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With ev'ry step I take, let this be my solemn vow;
To take each moment, and live each moment in peace eternally!
Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me.**

Postlude

"The Trees of the Field"

by Dauermann

The people of People's Congregational Church thank you for joining us on this celebratory day! We invite you to linger after the service for a reception here at People's Park. We invite you to explore the park! Feel welcome to visit the hillside prairie restoration and fire pit, the labyrinth, and our community garden. Our Antiracism Collective organizers invite you to visit a "signs of the morning" display stationed around the edges of the labyrinth, focused on key terms with accompanying questions.

***Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise

Harmony

God, all creatures here below: Alleluia!

Unison

Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our

gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Refrain (Harmony)

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows a musical score for a piece titled "Alleluia". It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!" are written below the treble staff. The music features a mix of chords and single notes, with a final cadence in the bass clef staff.

***I Am the Light of the World

Introduction

“I am the light of the world!

B \flat C F Gm Dm C

You peo-ple come and fol-low me!” If you fol-low and love you’ll

F Gm7 C B \flat F B \flat F *Last time, end*

learn the mys-ter-y of what you were meant to do and be.

F B \flat /D C F

1 When the song of the an-gels is stilled, when the
 2 7 To find the lost and lone-ly one, 7 to
 3 7 To free the pris-oner from all chains, 7 to
 4 To bring hope to ev-ery task you do, 7 to

This text is based on a Christmas poem by Howard Thurman, a prolific twentieth-century writer, theologian, and teacher. The song grew out of Jim Strathdee’s music ministry at an intercultural, bilingual congregation in Los Angeles.

Tune: LIGHT OF THE WORLD Irr.
 Jim Strathdee, 1969

Gm Dm C

star in the sky is gone, When the
 heal the bro - ken soul with love, 7 To
 make the pow - er - ful care, To re -
 dance at a ba - by's new birth, 7 To

F Bb C F

sag - es and the shep - herds have found their way home, the
 feed the hun - gry chil - dren with warmth and good food, To
 build the na - tions with strength of good will, to
 make mu - sic in an old per - son's heart, and

Dm Bb Gm7 C *Return to %*

work of Christ-mas is be - gun:
 feel the earth be - low, the sky a - bove!
 see all God's chil - dren ev - ery - where!
 sing to the col - ors of the earth!

Participants in the Service

Pastor Clare offers deep gratitude to the following persons for their leadership

Carl and Norda Gromoll, Aidan Gromoll, Sam Bardwell (and Martha, Naomi and Will), Sam and Jonah Gromoll | *the family who forms me*

Walt Richey (chair), Mary Maren Bjork, Jim Dahl, Nat Graff,
Kimberly Jackson, Lori Mildon, Betsy Stokes, Matt Wulff
Pastoral Search Committee

Green Team (John Norheim, Tuner, and others)
tenders of the land at People's Park

Claire and Paul Spilseth and others | *leaders of set-up and tear-down*

Kimberly Jackson, Communications Coordinator, key partner in ministry
bulletin production, service recorder

Jackie Savage | *manager of promotion via our sign on Hwy 95*

Sharon Binger and others | *greeters*

Sharon Neuenfeldt, Worship Accompanist of People's Congregational Church
keyboardist

Rev. T. Michael Rock, Co-Pastor of Robbinsdale Parkway UCC | *clergy prayer*

Mary Maren Bjork | *liturgist*

Sam Bardwell, brother | *liturgist*

Cathy Pino, classmate at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities
songwriter

Mike Bjork, Music Director of People's Congregational Church | *guitarist*

Rev. Kevin Brown, MN UCC Associate Conference Minister for Faith
Formation for Children & Youth, mentor in faith formation ministry
a time with young people

Rev. Norma Rae Hunt, Lead Minister Emeritus of St. Paul's United Church of Christ, mentor in local church ministry | *message*

Rev. Kay Welsch, Visitation Pastor Emeritus of St. Paul's United Church of Christ, mentor in pastoral care ministry | *representative of the Committee on Ministry for MN Conference UCC, charge to the pastor*

Laura Lundgren, Deacons of United Church of Christ in New Brighton
representative of my local church of membership

Matt Wulff, Moderator of People's Congregational Church
representative of the calling body

Rev. Beth Donaldson, Lead Minister of United Church of Christ in New Brighton | *my pastor, charge to the congregation*

Rev. Pamela Jensen | Pastor of First Congregational Church of New Richland
greetings from the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches

Rev. Sandy Johnson, MN UCC Bridge Associate Conference Minister, worship arts instructor | *greetings from the MN Conference UCC*

People's Congregational Church Choir & Friends | *offertory anthem*

Jill Greenhalgh and Lori Mildon | *reception organizers and hosts*

PCC Members and Friends | *providers of food and beverages for the reception*

Mary Maren Bjork, Lori Mildon and Jenni Shaller
Antiracism Collective organizers

To all who are present today - thank you!

PRAYER CORNER

Please hold these joys and concerns in your prayers:

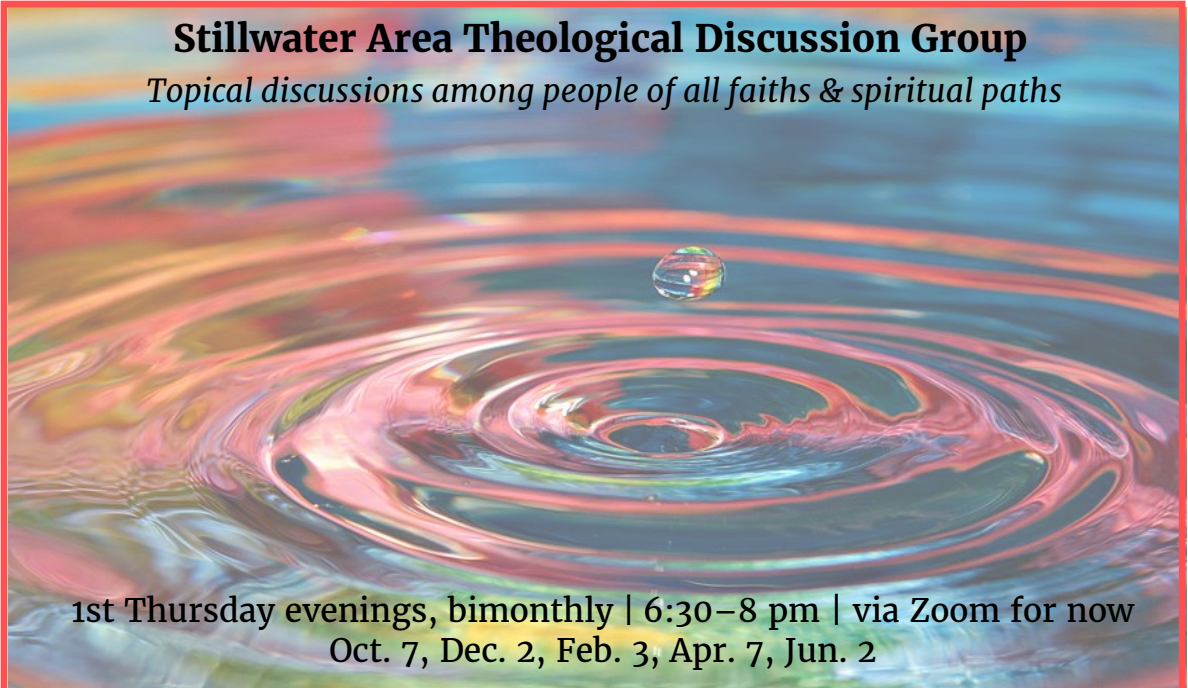
- *For Kimberly's father Gordon Jackson, who fell on Monday, fractured his hip, had successful surgery in which two rods were placed, and is moving toward healing and rehabilitation.
- *For the initiative, generosity, and energy of those who recently re-stained our gazebo and renovated our Sunday School room.
- *For the wellbeing of church friends who have not been able to be with us in person this summer and early fall. May we make our care known to them.
- *For all who suffer while managing chronic pain, particularly Barb Hilliard and Bob Neuenfeldt.
- *For the family of Santino, a third-grader at the school Mike Bjork teaches. Santino lost his older brother in a car accident, and his family is heartbroken. May the school community be a healing presence for him.
- *Cheri & Bob Schwartz are new grandparents! Daisy Sue Schmidt was born on September 8th to Cheri's son Dan and his wife Courtney. Big sister Isla was very excited to welcome Daisy.
- *For Cindy & John Siegel's daughter, Jenna, battling a brain tumor. Radiation has been cancelled for now as doctors seek to determine why the tumor is growing so aggressively.
- *We celebrate birthdays with Nat Graf (26th), Eleanora Favilla (8yrs. Old on the 1st) & Jere Fetter (8th). We celebrated with Walt & Paula Richey their anniversary on the 27th.

And in the wider community...

- *For the safeguarding of reproductive rights, empowering women to manage their own health and bodies.
- *As the COVID19 pandemic rages on, may we protect all of our neighbors from the virus.

Stillwater Area Theological Discussion Group

Topical discussions among people of all faiths & spiritual paths



1st Thursday evenings, bimonthly | 6:30–8 pm | via Zoom for now
Oct. 7, Dec. 2, Feb. 3, Apr. 7, Jun. 2

October 7th | Topic: "Oneness (Unity)"

David Keller, a person of Bahá'í faith and regular participant in this group, will facilitate our discussion.

**How do we build and maintain a unified community?*

**Can we bring people of different backgrounds together and foster higher degrees of unity in thought and action?*

**What spiritual paths, truths or teachings lead us to unity and oneness?*

“Those who are working alone are like ants, but when they are united they will become as eagles. Those who work singly are as drops, but, when united, they will become a vast river carrying the cleansing water of life into the barren desert places of the world. Before the power of its rushing flood, neither misery, nor sorrow, nor any grief will be able to stand. Be united! It is rather dangerous to be an isolated drop. It might be spilled or blown away.”

– Baha'i Writings

Co-hosted by People's Congregational Church, Adult Faith Formation Team
Please find the zoom link on our website: peoplescongregational.org/groups/



INQUIRERS GATHERING

WED | OCT. 6 | 4:30 PM

*Come learn more about
People's Church*

Would you like to learn more about People's Congregational Church and a bit about Congregationalism? Would you like to explore deepening your participation in our congregation and possibly consider covenanting in membership (a pledge of mutual support along the faith journey)?

You are invited to our next Inquirers Gathering! We will gather in the gazebo at People's Park on Wednesday, Oct. 6, 4:30-6:00 pm. We will share introductions among all present, storytelling by Pastor Clare and lay leaders about People's Church history and our present ministries, and hopes for next steps in our collective journey. Attending this gathering does not obligate you to covenant in membership, but it is a required step in the process.

The second and final step prior to joining is a one-to-one conversation with Pastor Clare to allow her to learn more in depth about your faith journey and what you hope to experience as a member of People's Church. So far, there will be at least 5 of us at this gathering.


Our next New Member Sunday will be either October 17 or 31. Pastor Clare and her sons as well as at least one other individual will covenant with us as new members!

Volunteer Sign-Up

We now have a sign-up sheet at our after-worship fellowship table. Please sign up for a date to serve as lay reader, one of two greeters, after-worship fellowship host, or service recorder.



People's Congregational Church

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